

entertained no doubt about this matter. He *knew* whom he was serving. He did just what his master told him—nothing more nor less—consequently he was confident that the Lord would crown him with everlasting life. If we live up to the standard of perfection that Paul did we need not entertain any doubt as to our final reward. Strive to enter in at the strait gate. "Oh the good we all my do, as the days are going by."

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GOD'S COVENANT WITH ABRAHAM, ISAAC AND JACOB.

BY A. J. BLOUGH.

CALL OF ABRAHAM.

Gen. vii, Jehovah said unto Abraham "Get thee out of thy country, and from thy kindred, and from thy kindred, and from thy fathers house unto a land that I will show thee, and I will make of thee a great nation; and I will bless thee, and make thy name great, and thou shalt be a blessing. Please read the whole chapter. Gen. xiii, and Jehovah said unto Abraham, after Lot was separated from him, "lift up now thine eyes and look from the place where thou art, north, south, east and west. For all the land thou seest will I give thee and to thy seed forever, and I will make thy seed like the dust of the earth," etc. Please read Gen. xv and xvii. To Isaac Jehovah made this promise, Gen. xxvi, and said, "go not down into Egypt dwell in the land that I tell thee of. Sojourn in this land and I will bless thee; for unto thee and thy seed I will give all these countries; and I will perform the oath which I swore unto Abraham thy father, and I will make thy seed to multiply, as the stars of heaven; and will give unto thy seed all these countries; and in thy seed shall all the families of the earth be blessed; because that Abraham obeyed my voice and kept my charge, my commandments, my statutes and my laws."

To Jacob he made the same promise. Read Genesis xxviii, xxxv and xlviii chapters and you have the promises made to Jacob.

Were these promises fulfilled? I think not yet, but will be fulfilled to

the very letter. Stephen in his defence (see Acts vii,) says, "And he gave him none inheritance in it no not so much as to set his foot on, yet he promised that he would give it to him as a possession, and to his seed after him, when as yet he had no child." God is the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, and if he is their God he must fulfill all his promises, which he made to them, and confirmed with an oath. We will here observed that the covenant between God and Abraham was faithfully performed on Abraham's side, and God will never suffer it to fail on his part, no, never. What was the promise? A piece of land, and not a small piece either, all the land, from the river of Egypt unto the river Euphrates. Exodus ii. When the children of Israel were oppressed in Egypt they cried: and their cry came up to God by reason of their bondage; and God heard their groaning: and God remembered his covenant with Abraham, with Isaac and with Jacob; and God looked upon the children of Israel, and God had respect unto them; and God sent Moses and Aaron to rescue them. God called Abraham out of his own country and he obeyed and obtained the promise. The same blessings were promised to Isaac and Jacob, they obeyed therefore the same covenant was confirmed to each of them. David said: "He has remembered his covenant forever which he has commanded to a thousand generations, which covenant he made to Abraham, and to his oath, to Isaac and confirmed it to Jacob for a law, and to Israel for an everlasting covenant."

The covenant confirmed with Abraham by the oath of God, could not be disannulled by the law given and the covenant made at Sinai four hundred and thirty years afterwards, as St. Paul declares in Gal. iii. So much for the covenant made with Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.

God's covenant with the children of Israel after they came out of Egypt and arrived at Sinai where God first spake to Moses. Exodus xix chapter "And Moses went up unto God and Jehovah called to him out of the mountain saying thus shalt thou say unto the house of Jacob, and tell the children of Israel." Then he tells them what he

has done for them; how he brought them out of Egypt, etc. Now he makes this proposition to them." Now therefore, if ye will obey my voice indeed, and keep my covenant, then ye shall be a peculiar people unto me above all people: And ye shall be unto me a kingdom of Priests, and a holy nation." Moses called the elders of the people, and laid before their faces all these words, and all the people answered together. All that Jehovah has said we will do. And Moses returning the answer of the people to Jehovah said to Moses, "Lo I come unto thee in a thick cloud that the people may hear when I speak with thee, and believes thee for ever." Here God proposes the covenant to which the people readily consented. The preliminaries being settled it was in order for the Lord to let them know what his will was and what they had to do. This he did in the following language, "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart and with all thy soul and with all thy mind and with all thy strength, and thy neighbor as thyself. To impress this holy law more forcibly on their minds he delivered it to them with all majesty and terror from Mount Sinai. "There were thunderings and lightnings and a thick cloud upon the mount, and the sound of the trumpet was exceeding loud; so that all the people in the camp trembled. And the mount was altogether on a smoke and the trumpet sounded long and louder and louder. Moses spake and God answered him by a voice. When the Israelites saw and heard all this they insisted with Moses that he should speak to them in place of God, they said lest we die, but how soon was this forgotten; and they made a golden calf and worshiped it. After this God gave them a set of statutes. Exodus xxiii. Thus was the covenant made between God and the people at Sinai. Both parties consented, the matter was engrossed in a book made for that purpose. The covenant was then read in the ears of all the people in word to its final ratification. All the promised obedience to every part of it, thus was it confirmed, ratified and sealed. But was this covenant kept undefiled? Did the church of Israel continue holy? See Jer. ii.